

a processor; and

a memory device coupled to said processor;

wherein said system is adapted to receive a plurality of input attributes and output attributes from an application program; and

wherein said memory device stores instructions that, when executed by said processor, cause said processor to:

dynamically create a plurality of data field conversion routines for each set of input attributes and output attributes; and

store said plurality of data field conversion routines in a second memory device accessible to said application program.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested. Applicants thank the Examiner for extending the courtesy of conducting a telephone interview on March 27, 2001. During that interview, an agreement was reached as to if the independent claims were amended to recite "creating" in lieu of "generating" as to clarify what is being claimed, the rejection in the Office Action would be overcome.

In the Office Action, Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,784,635 ("McCallum"). McCallum in Column 6, lines 40-67 discloses that a conversion is performed by running source data against a conversion engine. The Office Action relies on McCallum's loading of the conversion engine into memory before executing it as teaching the generating conversion routines.

According to the Office Action, loading programs into memory reads on generating.

In the telephone interview, Applicants explained that generating as recited in independent claims 1, 8, and 15 refers to creating conversion routines and that McCallum does not suggest or disclose creating conversion routines. The Examiner agreed that McCallum does not disclose or suggest creating conversion routines and indicated that if the claims were amended to clearly recite "creating," the rejection would be overcome. Accordingly, the word "generating" recited in independent claims 1 and 8 are being amended to recite "creating" and the word "generate" recited in independent claim 15 is being amended to recite "create." Claims 2-7, 9-14, and 16-20 depend from claims 1, 8, and 15 respectively. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance. It is also submitted that the amendments made herein do not narrow the scope of the pending claims.

This communication is believed to be fully responsive to the Office Action and every effort has been made to place the application in condition for allowance. The claims, in view of the foregoing explanation, are believed to be patentable over the prior art, and a favorable Office Action is hereby earnestly solicited.

If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, Applicant's

undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone at the number provided below.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment according to 37 C.F.R. §1.121. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

1. (Twice Amended) A method of converting a plurality of input field types to a plurality of output field types by an application program, said method comprising:

(a) receiving a first attribute of a first input field type and a second attribute of a first output field type;

(b) creating ~~generating~~ at runtime a first optimized conversion routine based on said first attribute and said second attribute; and

(c) executing said first optimized conversion routine from said application program to convert said first input field type to said first output field type.

8. (Once Amended) A method of converting data from input field types to output field types, said method comprising:

(a) receiving a plurality of input attributes and output attributes from an application program;

(b) dynamically creating ~~generating~~ a plurality of data field conversion routines for each set of input attributes and output attributes; and

(c) storing said plurality of data field conversion routines in memory accessible to said application program.

15. (Once Amended) A system for dynamically generating computer data field conversion routines, said system comprising:

a processor; and

a memory device coupled to said processor;

wherein said system is adapted to receive a plurality of input attributes and output attributes from an application program; and

wherein said memory device stores instructions that, when executed by said processor, cause said processor to:

dynamically create ~~generate~~ a plurality of data field conversion routines for each set of input attributes and output attributes; and

store said plurality of data field conversion routines in a second memory device accessible to said application program.